[6th September 1928

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—"I am relying on the words 'Apart from the question of undertaking or not'."

The hon the President :—"He is not prepared to answer the question."

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—"I am merely asking the meaning of the phrase."

The hon. the President :—"That cannot form a supplemental question."

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—"May I know what the answer to my question is?"

The hon. the President :—"The answer to the question is there."

Mr. A Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—"Sir, the hon. Minister says that apart from the question of undertaking or not he is not prepared to answer any question regarding his relations with His Excellency the Governor. That is alright. But he seems to make an exception in the case of his undertaking in regard to the Simon Commission. I would request you to kindly go through the answer and . . ."

The hon. the President :—"I am not able to understand the answer in that sense."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—"May I ask the hon. Minister whether he gave any undertaking to the Government apart from the Governor?"

The hon. Mr M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—"No, Sir."

Industries

Testing of subsoil water sources in Kurnool, etc.

* 172 Q.—Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether any action has been taken in regard to the testing of subsoil water sources by the Collectors of Kurnool, Anantapur and Bellary?

A.—No action has been taken by the Collectors; but as the hon. Member is perhaps already aware, an experimental survey of the subsoil supplies of water is in progress in certain villages in the Bellary firka.

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—"May I know, Sir, whether any action is contemplated to be taken by the Collectors of the districts of Anantapur and Kurnool?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—"It depends on the report."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—"May I know whether any report is expected from the Bellary district in the near future?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—"I am not sure, Sir."

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar :—"As regards Bellary district, may I know what method they are going to adopt for the survey, whether they have any special expert staff or whether they are utilizing the ordinary Public Works Department staff itself?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—"It is made by the boring staff of the Industries Department."

6th September 1928]

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar :—" Subsoil survey is different from 'boring'; and may I know whether a report has been called for about the special methods to be pursued in subsoil survey ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" Everything will be known as soon as the report is received."

Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—" May I know how far the Government are making use of expert water diviners ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" I believe there is one such man."

Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—" Is one quite sufficient ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" Yes."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—" May I know what is the plan of action approved by the Government for the survey ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" Notice, Sir."

Facilities for learning certain arts from the prisoners at Alipuram.

* 173 Q.—Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao : With reference to the answer to clause (viii) of my question No. 1753 answered on 15th March 1928, will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the recommendation of the Special Officer on page 23 of the report on the Bellary district that 'while the prisoners are at Alipuram facilities might be given to the residents of Bellary or other places in the district' to learn certain arts from them has been considered ; and

(*b*) if so, what action has been taken in the matter ?

A.—Coir fibre is difficult to obtain in Bellary and no coir industry is carried on in either the Alipuram Jail or the Bellary Jail. Facilities cannot therefore be provided at the jail for people to learn coir rope making, etc., from the Mappilla prisoners. Nor is it practicable to take these prisoners to Kudligi where there are coconut trees to teach the people there, as it is 40 miles by road with no railway communication.

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—" May I ask the hon. the Development Minister to consider the feasibility of taking some people from Kudligi to Bellary itself and teach them there ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" The answer is contained in the first sentence of the answer already given."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" May I know whether the Government are aware that coir is exported from the West Coast to Bellary ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" I do not know, Sir."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—" May I ask whether coir cannot be taken from Kudligi to Bellary and whether the freight will be a serious handicap ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" We have to make arrangements with the Jail department. At present there are some other industries."